

TENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

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PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference

9432-176/POA

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

PCT/US03/09880

International filing date (day/month/year)

31 March 2003 (31.03.2003)

Priority date (day/month/year)

05 April 2002 (05.04.2002)

Applicant

MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

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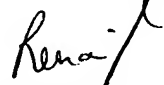
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TENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 9432-176/POA	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US03/09880	International filing date (day/month/year) 31 March 2003 (31.03.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 05 April 2002 (05.04.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): H04N 5/44, 5/445; G06F 3/00, 13/00 and US Cl.: 348/734; 725/37, 38, 39		
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u>4</u> sheets.</p>		
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application 		
Date of submission of the demand 31 October 2003 (31.10.2003)	Date of completion of this report 17 February 2005 (17.02.2005)	
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/ US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer Chris Grant  Telephone No. (703) 305-4750	

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description:
pages 1-17 as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the claims:
pages 18-20 and 22-24 as originally filed
pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages 21, 25, 25A, 25B, filed with the letter of 22 December 2004 (22.12.2004)
- ☒ the drawings:
pages 1-21 as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages NONE as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☒ the description, pages NONE
- ☒ the claims, Nos. NONE
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/fig NONE

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/US03/1380**V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. STATEMENT**

Novelty (N)

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet YESClaims Please See Continuation Sheet NO

Inventive Step (IS)

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet YESClaims Please See Continuation Sheet NO

Industrial Applicability (IA)

Claims Please See Continuation Sheet YESClaims Please See Continuation Sheet NO**2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS**

Please See Continuation Sheet

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

V.1. Reasoned Statements:

The opinion as to Novelty was positive (Yes) with respect to claims 1-6, 12-14, 17, 19-23, 26-31, 37-39, 42, 44-48, 52-63

The opinion as to Novelty was negative (No) with respect to claims 7-11, 15, 16, 18, 24, 25, 32-36, 40, 41, 43, 49-51

The opinion as to Inventive Step was positive (Yes) with respect to claims 54-63

The opinion as to Inventive Step was negative (NO) with respect to claims 1-53

The opinion as to Industrial Applicability was positive (YES) with respect to claims 1-63

The opinion as to Industrial Applicability was negative (NO) with respect to claims NONE

V. 2. Citations and Explanations:

Claims 7-11, 15, 16, 18, 24, 25, 32 - 36, 40, 41, 43 and 49 - 51 lacks novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Croy et al (6,040,829).

Regarding claim 7, Croy discloses an remote control which has in input to receive EPG information from an TV broadcast stream, storing the EPG information, and organizing and presenting the EPG information in a electronic index (see col 6 line 55 - col 7 line 5 and col 8 lines 1 - 11) and thus discloses the claimed an input receptive of media-related information extracted from a television broadcast stream, a data store storing the media -related information and an electronic index organizing the media-related information to facilitate retrieval of the media related information by the user.

Regarding claim 8, Croy discloses the claimed information text in the form of an EPG (see col 6 line 55 - col 7 line 5).

Regarding claim 9, Croy discloses the claimed hyperlink (see col 9 lines 21 - 23).

Regarding claims 10 and 11, Croy discloses the claimed wherein the electronic index is adapted to associate the media-related information in computer memory with an identification of a television program a user enjoyed and the claimed wherein the electronic index is adapted to associate the media-related information in memory with at least one of a user-specified category and a user-defined label (see col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35, col 18 lines 33 - 49).

Regarding claim 15, Croy discloses the claimed data decoder, data parser and a user interface adapted to employ a template assigned to the category (see fig 1, fig 2, fig 12, fig 13 and col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35).

Regarding claims 16 and 18, Croy discloses the claimed advertisement and game (see col 9 lines 23 - 30).

Regarding claim 24, Croy discloses a first input of identifications of available electronic content, a second input in communication with a communications system having an EPG and a synchronization engine adapted to construct and maintain links between the identifications of available electronic media content (see fig 1, fig 2, fig 12, fig 13 and col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35).

Regarding claim 25, Croy discloses a user interface adapted to display multiple levels of progressively more detailed information (fig 12, fig 13 and col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35).

Claims 32 - 36, 40, 41, 43, 49, 50 are met by the above discussions.

Regarding claim 51, Croy discloses the claimed portable device having communication link, adaptive filtering, storing user information and learned content selection patterns and a portable device affecting content selection based at least in part upon said user information (see col 6 line 55 - col 7 line 5 and col 8 lines 1 - 11).

Claims 1 - 6, 12 - 14, 17, 19 - 23, 26 - 31, 37 - 39, 42, 44 - 48, 52 and 53 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Croy et al. Although Croy fails to disclose all the claimed limitations, it would have been obvious to modify Croy to include the claimed limitation.

Regarding claim 1, Croy discloses a remote control which receives EPG information and further discloses scheduling the electronic media events, or EPG programming for recording. The available electronic events are communicated to the remote control and have predetermined times and durations (see col 6 line 55 - col 7 line 5 and col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35). Croy fails to disclose

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

communicating scheduled personal events and a scheduling module adapted to identify and resolve a conflict between an electronic media event and a scheduled event, however, it would have been obvious to include the claimed schedule of personal events with the claimed scheduling module to enable a user to record a list of preferred programs and to ensure the user does not miss a program by recording one of the programs in the event of a conflict when two program are on at the same time.

Regarding claims 2 and 3, Croy fails to disclose the claimed informing the user of the conflict, and recording device to record the electronic media event thatn conflicts with the scheduled personal event, however, it would have been obvious to include informing the user so that the user is informed of the conflict and that one of the programs will be recorded.

Regarding claim 4, Croy discloses the claimed EPG (see col 6 lines 55 - 67).

Regarding claim 5, Croy discloses the claimed usage pattern analysis (see col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35).

Regarding claim 6, Croy discloses storing media clips associated with the EPG categories (see col 9 lines 10 - 35).

Regarding claim 12, Croy discloses a hand-held remote control device, a usage pattern analysis module adapted to perform an analysis of previous user consumption of electronic media events via an electronic media device, anticipating user preferences and a user interface adapted to acting on anticipation of user preferences to accomplish improved enjoyment of media content by the user (see col 6 line 55 - col 7 line 5 and col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35). Cory discloses the remote control PN can control a plurality of electronic media devices but fails to disclose performing an analysis of previous consumption of a plurality of media devices, however, it would have been obvious to modify Croy to include this limitation to enable greater customization of a plurality of devices in lieu of one.

Regarding claim 13, Cory discloses observing a user routine but fails to disclose the interface is adapted to reminding the user of user behavior associate with conflicts with ser deviation from the user routine, however, it would have been obvious to modify Croy to include this limitation to inform the user of changes in the user behavior enabling better and more accurate tracking.

Claims 14, Croy fails to disclose the claimed operations settings and default operational settings, however, it would have been obvious to modify Croy to include the claimed limitations to provide better control of the electronic media devices.

Regarding claims 17 and 19, Croy fails to disclose extracting an electronic coupon providing a discount on an advertised product, wherein the game is adapted to award the electronic coupon to the user in connection with the user playing the game, however, it would have been obvious to modify Croy to include the claimed limitations to provide a user with discounts on products and reward a user for playing a game by winning.

Regarding claim 20, Croy discloses a user interface system with a handheld device, a plurality of options including electronic media events and broadcast channels rendering the electronic media event available to the user, an active display communicating the plurality of options to the user as a list of ranked options (see col 6 line 55 - col 7 line 5 and col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35, see fig 12 and fig 13). Croy fails to disclose the claimed handwriting recognition module and matching engine, however, it would have been obvious to modify Croy to include the claimed limitations to enable a user to have the ease and convenience of searching and organizing the media events.

Regarding claim 21, Croy discloses the claimed receiving a selection of a ranked option and receiving a broadcast based on the selected rank options (see col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35).

Regarding claims 22 and 23, Croy discloses an input adapted to receive a user selection of a ranked option (see col 8 line 1 - col 9 line 35). Croy fails to disclose the claimed training engine and translation engine, however, it would have been obvious to modify Croy to include the claimed training engine to adapt future recognition of handwritten user queries to provide faster means of providing the plurality of options to a user into a language preferred by the user.

Claims 26 - 31, 37 - 39, 42, 44, 45 - 48 are met by the above discussions.

Regarding claims 52 and 53, Croy discloses controlling the A/C, heating, security etc. from the remote control (see col 9 lines 30 - 35) but fails to disclose the claimed wherein the information further includes information about the user's environment and wherein the user information includes information derived from a source other than the broadcast source, however, it would have been obvious to modify Croy to include the claimed limitations to provide automatic preference and user personal customization of the user's environment i.e. A/C, heating, security etc.

Claims 54 - 63 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a synchronization engine as claimed.

In response to the arguments, and Arguments directed at claims 1 - 53 are deemed non-persuasive as the Examiner respectively submits that Croy teaches the claimed limitations. Any arguments directed to the claims are moot because the Examiner concurs that the prior art fails to teach the limitations.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

Replaced by Afb. 34

21. The system of claim 20 comprising:
an input adapted to receive a user selection of a ranked option; and
a command module adapted to control an electronic media device to
receive a broadcast channel based on the user selection.
- 5 22. The system of claim 20 comprising:
an input adapted to receive a user selection of a ranked option; and
a training engine operable to adapt future recognition of handwritten
user queries based on the user selection of the ranked option.
- 10 23. The system of claim 20 comprising a translation engine adapted to
translate the plurality of options into a language of the user.
24. An electronic programming guide maintenance system for use with a
hand-held device, comprising:
an input receptive of identifications of available electronic media
content, wherein the identifications are extracted from a broadcast signal operable to
15 deliver the available electronic media content;
a second input in communication with a communications system having
electronic programming guide information providing details relating to the available
media content; and
a synchronization engine adapted to construct and maintain links
20 between the identifications of available electronic media content and related electronic
programming guide information.
25. The system of claim 24 comprising a user interface adapted to display
multiple levels of progressively more detailed information relating to the available
media content, wherein a user selecting an identification of available media content
25 receives more detailed information relating to the available media content via a link to
related programming guide information.
26. A method of avoiding scheduling conflicts for use with a hand-held
remote control device integrated with multiple information sources, comprising:
maintaining an electronic schedule of personal events, wherein the
30 electronic schedule is adapted to commonly schedule electronic media events with
scheduled personal events;
simultaneously communicating scheduled personal events and
available electronic media events to a user, wherein the scheduled personal events
and the available electronic media events have predefined times and durations; and

48. The method of claim 45, comprising translating the plurality of options into a language of the user.

49. A method of maintaining an electronic programming guide for use with a hand-held device, comprising:

5 receiving identifications of available electronic media content, wherein the identifications are extracted from a broadcast signal operable to deliver the available electronic media content;

communicating with a communications system having electronic programming guide information providing details relating to the available media content; and

10 constructing and maintaining links between the identifications of available electronic media content and related electronic programming guide information.

50. The method of claim 49 comprising displaying multiple levels of progressively more detailed information relating to the available media content, wherein a user selecting an identification of available media content receives more detailed information relating to the available media content via a link to related programming guide information.

51. An adaptive information system, comprising:

20 a portable device having communication link to control content selection from a broadcast source;

the portable device employing an adaptive filtering algorithm that learns a user's content selection patterns;

a user information data store for storing user information, including said learned content selection patterns;

25 said portable device affecting content selection based at least in part upon said user information.

52. The system of claim 51 wherein said user information further includes information about the user's environment.

30 53. The system of claim 51 wherein said user information further includes information that is derived from a source other than said broadcast source.